

Annual Message of JOHN W. GERRY, Governor of Pennsylvania.

From the days of William Penn, the great and pious founder of our Commonwealth, it has been the universal custom of my predecessors, when making their annual communications to the General Assembly, to acknowledge their gratitude to, and dependence upon the Great Lawgiver of the Universe. In imitation of their noble example, let us earnestly invoke His blessing and guidance in our efforts to perform the great work of legislation now before us, in such manner as to meet His approbation, as well as that of our common constituents.

In transmitting to you the seventy-ninth annual message since the organization of the present State government, it affords me the highest gratification to congratulate you and our fellow citizens generally on their enjoying, to an unusual degree, the blessings of health and unstinted prosperity; and that our principles and institutions—the pride and boast of every true-hearted patriot—although tried again and again in the heat of political contest, the heavings of popular passion, and the collision of parties, from which we have just emerged, remain unimpaired and vital in every part.

Under such auspicious circumstances you have assembled for the purpose of electing the important duties, and assuming the special responsibilities which devolve upon you. It is extremely difficult, even with the greatest caution in your deliberations, to enact laws that will fully meet the expectations and opinion of the people; but much of this difficulty may be overcome by avoiding legislation for personal and special interests, and not being unmindful of the magnitude of the interests of the State, and of its rapidly advancing population, wealth and influence to destinies beyond the reach of human vision.

Under such auspicious circumstances you have assembled for the purpose of electing the important duties, and assuming the special responsibilities which devolve upon you. It is extremely difficult, even with the greatest caution in your deliberations, to enact laws that will fully meet the expectations and opinion of the people; but much of this difficulty may be overcome by avoiding legislation for personal and special interests, and not being unmindful of the magnitude of the interests of the State, and of its rapidly advancing population, wealth and influence to destinies beyond the reach of human vision.

Under such auspicious circumstances you have assembled for the purpose of electing the important duties, and assuming the special responsibilities which devolve upon you. It is extremely difficult, even with the greatest caution in your deliberations, to enact laws that will fully meet the expectations and opinion of the people; but much of this difficulty may be overcome by avoiding legislation for personal and special interests, and not being unmindful of the magnitude of the interests of the State, and of its rapidly advancing population, wealth and influence to destinies beyond the reach of human vision.

Under such auspicious circumstances you have assembled for the purpose of electing the important duties, and assuming the special responsibilities which devolve upon you. It is extremely difficult, even with the greatest caution in your deliberations, to enact laws that will fully meet the expectations and opinion of the people; but much of this difficulty may be overcome by avoiding legislation for personal and special interests, and not being unmindful of the magnitude of the interests of the State, and of its rapidly advancing population, wealth and influence to destinies beyond the reach of human vision.

Under such auspicious circumstances you have assembled for the purpose of electing the important duties, and assuming the special responsibilities which devolve upon you. It is extremely difficult, even with the greatest caution in your deliberations, to enact laws that will fully meet the expectations and opinion of the people; but much of this difficulty may be overcome by avoiding legislation for personal and special interests, and not being unmindful of the magnitude of the interests of the State, and of its rapidly advancing population, wealth and influence to destinies beyond the reach of human vision.

Under such auspicious circumstances you have assembled for the purpose of electing the important duties, and assuming the special responsibilities which devolve upon you. It is extremely difficult, even with the greatest caution in your deliberations, to enact laws that will fully meet the expectations and opinion of the people; but much of this difficulty may be overcome by avoiding legislation for personal and special interests, and not being unmindful of the magnitude of the interests of the State, and of its rapidly advancing population, wealth and influence to destinies beyond the reach of human vision.

dated March 30, 1869, the Sinking Fund Commissioners delivered all the obligations of the Sunbury and Erie Railroad Company, being three mortgage bonds, to the Allegheny Valley Railroad Company, and received therefor three five second mortgage bonds of one hundred thousand dollars each, making in all three million, five hundred thousand dollars, executed by the said Allegheny Valley Railroad Company, and guaranteed by the Pennsylvania R. R. Co., the Northern Central R. R. Co., and the Philadelphia and Erie R. R. Co., payable to the Commonwealth as follows, viz: The principal one of said bonds (\$100,000) shall be payable each and every year, beginning January 1, 1875, and so continuing annually thereafter until the said sum of three million, five hundred thousand dollars shall be paid, with interest thereon from January 1, 1872.

The citizens of Pennsylvania have always borne taxation not only patiently but cheerfully, and they are still as willing as ever to contribute to the payment of all the obligations resting upon the State; but they expect the public servants who are intrusted with the management of their affairs to act upon the most prudent and economical basis. In a word, they demand reform in the management of the financial affairs of the State, and, as far as possible, the retrenchment of all unnecessary expenditures.

For many years the general appropriation bills have been signed on the day of the adjournment of the Legislature, and I here repeat my suggestion of last year on this subject. "The Governor has been forced either to sign the bills without proper investigation, notwithstanding any objections they may have; or to suspend the means to defray the operations of the government for the ensuing year; or call an extra session of the Legislature. It is therefore earnestly desired that the appropriation bill be taken up, discussed and passed at a sufficiently early period during the session to enable the Governor to give it that thorough examination its importance demands."

COMMON SCHOOLS. The peculiar interest which is always manifested by the people in the subject of education, is an inducement to lay before you, more at length than would otherwise be done, the principal statistics of the system drawn from the report of the Superintendent of Common Schools.

There are within the State 1,971 school districts; 13,936 schools; 2,445 graded schools; 12,990 school directors; 76,891 superintendents; 17,142 teachers, and 815,753 pupils. The average cost of tuition for each pupil is nearly seven cents, and should be \$3.00, 70¢ to 25¢. Total cost including expenditures of all kinds during the year, \$6,986,148.92. Estimated value of school property \$14,045,632.

The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would be a combined knowledge of agriculture, science and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is now in the hands of a Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of \$25,551.90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would be a combined knowledge of agriculture, science and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is now in the hands of a Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of \$25,551.90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would be a combined knowledge of agriculture, science and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is now in the hands of a Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of \$25,551.90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would be a combined knowledge of agriculture, science and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is now in the hands of a Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of \$25,551.90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution.

they have been in operation, the whole number of deaths has been less than one-third of one per cent. per annum.

THE ENTIRE COST FOR MAINTENANCE, EDUCATION, clothing and general expenses, for the year ending May 31, 1869, differs but little from the original estimate of the Superintendent, and amounts to \$500,971.62, to pay which there was an unexpended balance of \$6,004.74. Appropriated April 11, 1868, \$400,000.00; Appropriated March 13, 1869, \$50,000.00; Total, \$450,000.00. Balance unprovided for, \$1,004.74.

For which sum there should be a special appropriation without delay, to meet the pressing wants of the teachers of the different institutions, who have already been compelled to await its payment for more than seven months.

For the maintenance of these schools during the year ending May 31, 1871, it is estimated that \$234,000 will be required. Which sum I recommend to be appropriated, with the positive understanding that the expenditures shall not exceed that amount.

With unsparring patience, well considered measures, and earnestness of purpose, many defects have been corrected, and the schools have been advanced to a more perfect and efficient system than that which they were at first characterized, and elevated to a condition not second to any similar institutions in the country.

Most recently have the people endorsed the past action of their representatives in relation to these schools, and there exists a more cordial approval of the necessary appropriations for the continuance of the support, education and guardianship of these adopted children of the Commonwealth.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would be a combined knowledge of agriculture, science and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is now in the hands of a Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of \$25,551.90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would be a combined knowledge of agriculture, science and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is now in the hands of a Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of \$25,551.90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would be a combined knowledge of agriculture, science and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is now in the hands of a Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of \$25,551.90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would be a combined knowledge of agriculture, science and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is now in the hands of a Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of \$25,551.90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would be a combined knowledge of agriculture, science and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is now in the hands of a Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of \$25,551.90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. The establishment of this college was undoubtedly intended as a progressive movement, and under the impression that it would be a combined knowledge of agriculture, science and literature, and to promote the practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits of life. It has been fostered by the most liberal legislation, and is now in the hands of a Pennsylvania bonds, yielding an aggregate interest this year of \$25,551.90, which has been paid to the trustees of the institution.

proportions as have been requested by the Adjutant General for that office.

An unusual martial activity prevails throughout the State, but more particularly in Philadelphia. The encouragement which has been afforded to the unformed militia has been responded to with alacrity, and is exhibited as follows: In 1866, there were eight volunteer companies; in 1867, thirty-eight; in 1868, sixty-seven, and in 1869, one hundred and eighty-four.

The report of the Adjutant General will be found a very interesting document, containing much valuable information and many important suggestions. A careful perusal of its contents, and such action thereon as seems to be demanded by their importance, is recommended. Gen. D. B. M'Creary has been elected to membership in one of your honorable bodies, and with his last report he closed his career as Adjutant General.

MILITARY HISTORY. The report of the State Historian is deserving of your careful attention. In it you will find a detailed account of the operations of his department from its commencement to the present time. The work entrusted to his care is one of no ordinary character and responsibility, requiring talents of a high order, patient industry, careful research, and dispassionate judgment.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

insurances as have been requested by the Adjutant General for that office.

An unusual martial activity prevails throughout the State, but more particularly in Philadelphia. The encouragement which has been afforded to the unformed militia has been responded to with alacrity, and is exhibited as follows: In 1866, there were eight volunteer companies; in 1867, thirty-eight; in 1868, sixty-seven, and in 1869, one hundred and eighty-four.

The report of the Adjutant General will be found a very interesting document, containing much valuable information and many important suggestions. A careful perusal of its contents, and such action thereon as seems to be demanded by their importance, is recommended. Gen. D. B. M'Creary has been elected to membership in one of your honorable bodies, and with his last report he closed his career as Adjutant General.

MILITARY HISTORY. The report of the State Historian is deserving of your careful attention. In it you will find a detailed account of the operations of his department from its commencement to the present time. The work entrusted to his care is one of no ordinary character and responsibility, requiring talents of a high order, patient industry, careful research, and dispassionate judgment.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

insurances as have been requested by the Adjutant General for that office.

An unusual martial activity prevails throughout the State, but more particularly in Philadelphia. The encouragement which has been afforded to the unformed militia has been responded to with alacrity, and is exhibited as follows: In 1866, there were eight volunteer companies; in 1867, thirty-eight; in 1868, sixty-seven, and in 1869, one hundred and eighty-four.

The report of the Adjutant General will be found a very interesting document, containing much valuable information and many important suggestions. A careful perusal of its contents, and such action thereon as seems to be demanded by their importance, is recommended. Gen. D. B. M'Creary has been elected to membership in one of your honorable bodies, and with his last report he closed his career as Adjutant General.

MILITARY HISTORY. The report of the State Historian is deserving of your careful attention. In it you will find a detailed account of the operations of his department from its commencement to the present time. The work entrusted to his care is one of no ordinary character and responsibility, requiring talents of a high order, patient industry, careful research, and dispassionate judgment.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

insurances as have been requested by the Adjutant General for that office.

An unusual martial activity prevails throughout the State, but more particularly in Philadelphia. The encouragement which has been afforded to the unformed militia has been responded to with alacrity, and is exhibited as follows: In 1866, there were eight volunteer companies; in 1867, thirty-eight; in 1868, sixty-seven, and in 1869, one hundred and eighty-four.

The report of the Adjutant General will be found a very interesting document, containing much valuable information and many important suggestions. A careful perusal of its contents, and such action thereon as seems to be demanded by their importance, is recommended. Gen. D. B. M'Creary has been elected to membership in one of your honorable bodies, and with his last report he closed his career as Adjutant General.

MILITARY HISTORY. The report of the State Historian is deserving of your careful attention. In it you will find a detailed account of the operations of his department from its commencement to the present time. The work entrusted to his care is one of no ordinary character and responsibility, requiring talents of a high order, patient industry, careful research, and dispassionate judgment.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.

THE AVONDALE DISASTER. The recent disaster in the Avondale Coal Mine, in Luzerne county, is still fresh in the minds of the people, and has excited a horror to spread throughout the country, and even in Europe it has been productive of the most painful emotions and deepest sorrow for the sufferers.